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NO. 27

## THE CONGRESSIONAL RACE.

The "Press and Banner" Interviews Mr. Benet.

Mr. Benet being asked by the Press and Banner if he had any objection to define his position with regard to the Congressional race, replied:

"None in the world. My position is not difficult to define. Perhaps the best way to do so will be to submit to you the following letter written to Judge Cothran when I first heard his name mentioned as a probable candidate:

ABBEVILLE, 23 May, 1886.

DEAR JUDGE COTHRAN:—It was my purpose to call to see you this evening or in the morning, but I find you are to hold court in Sumter this week, and must suppose you will leave home for Verdery or Greenwood this evening. If that be so, can I see you before you go? I desire to know whether you are a candidate for Congress or no. I heard your name mentioned for the first time last Monday evening, in Columbia, in connection with the Congressional race, and I have had no opportunity of discovering either from yourself or your friends or mine whether the report is well-founded or no.

I tell you frankly that I have been waiting for Col. Aiken's withdrawal to offer myself as a candidate. This has been pretty generally understood among my friends in Abbeville County and the other counties of the Third District. Now, that he has publicly withdrawn, I shall at once announce myself a candidate unless you are a candidate. If you are, then I will not allow my name to be used, but will in the public prints state my determination not to run for Congress.

"This is my position; and I naturally wish to know yours; and to know it at once, for there is no time to be lost either by you or by me. Hence my desire to see you. You will kindly let me know if it will suit you for me to call on you this evening, and at what hour. If I cannot see you, you will kindly oblige me by answering this note and telling me whether you are in the field or no.

Yours truly,  
W. C. BENET.

Here is his reply:

MY DEAR MR. BENET:—Your note of this date has just been handed to me, and I am just in the act of taking the road for Greenwood to catch the night train for Augusta, on the only open way to Sumter court.

I have been greatly impatience to become a candidate for Congress in this District, and have the matter under consideration. It is not in my line, nor would I seek the place. I propose, however, to reply to one of the numerous letters that I have received at an early day, perhaps this week, after getting to Sumter, taking the ground that if, without solicitation on my part, I should be chosen for the place, I will not decline it.

I would have been glad to have seen you before leaving home, and have hoped during the whole of this week (past) to have seen Mr. Parker and yourself and other of my friends but have not been able to do so. I have had to make up my mind as far as it is made up for myself, with the aid of my homefolk only.

Very truly yours,

J. S. COTHRAN.

Two days afterwards Judge Cothran wrote the following letter to Mr. Tribble of Anderson, which was published in the Anderson Intelligencer, SUMTER COURT HOUSE, S. C., May 25, 1886.

J. L. Tribble, Esq., Anderson, S. C.  
MY DEAR SIR: I have your favor of the 18th inst., addressed to me at Abbeville. In replying to sundry letters of like import received within the past two months, I have expressed myself as being content with the official position which I now hold. These communications, however, have been addressed to individuals. I now feel called upon to define my position clearly to the public.

It is well known to my friends that I have never sought or desired political office of any kind. A public office is a public trust, and one who holds such, to some extent at least, surrenders his right to choose. Regarding it, further, as a thing neither to be sought nor declined, I have only to say if the people of this Congressional District, after the retirement of my neighbor and friend, Col. Aiken, demand my services as his successor, I do not feel at liberty to decline to serve them, always bearing in mind the distrust that I have of my own fitness for the position, contentment with my present office, and knowledge of the fact that there are others desiring the office for all of its requirements.

Very respectfully and truly yours,  
J. S. COTHRAN.

I wish the Judge had been more explicit. As my friend, neighbor and fellow-townsmen, I desired to know his position; for from the first I determined to make no contest with him. It is impossible to find out in these letters whether the Judge is going to be a candidate or not. As for me, my position is simply this: If Judge Cothran does not run for Congress, I will.—Abbeville Press and Banner, June 30th.

The Narrow Gauge from Newberry.

Messrs. Phifer, Spearman and Duncan, a committee from No. 4 township, Newberry County, visited our town last Tuesday, to consult with our citizens about extending the proposed Augusta and Newberry Narrow Gauge Road to this place and on to Charlotte.

At this time a strong effort is being made to run the road to Spartanburg, via Glenn Springs, and unless the people of Union arouse themselves and take prompt action in their own behalf, in this important matter, the road will surely go that way. There can be no doubt that the feeling in Newberry is decidedly in favor of the Union route, and if we show a decided interest in it, it is more than probable we shall secure the road.

The committee called on all our business men and freely and candidly placed the matter before them, and we were much pleased to hear them say, just before leaving, that they were highly pleased with the encouragement they had received from our citizens, and they felt more confident than ever that Union would offer such inducements that this route would eventually be decided on.

We are wedded to the route from Augusta to Charlotte, via Union and York, for we believe it is the route that will benefit us most and give the greatest security of success to the road. As we have said before, Augusta and Charlotte offer two important markets and outlets for passengers and freight, and of themselves would contribute more to the traffic of the road and the general business along its line than any other points could offer to a railroad passing through this part of the State. Besides, it would be more independent of other railroads and would cross, at important points, all the roads now controlled by the Richmond and Danville syndicate in this State.

We would prefer a broad gauge road, as it would give us a through line without "breaking bulk," and save the delay and expense of transshipping goods and passengers; but, on the principle that "half a loaf is better than no bread at all," and appreciating the necessity of economy in the first outlay of money, we will cordially and earnestly give the extension of the Augusta and Newberry Narrow Gauge road, through Union to Charlotte, all the aid and encouragement in our power, believing it to be an enterprise that will contribute more to the general prosperity of the county than anything now within the range of probability for years to come.—Union Times.

## Continuations.

Simply as a suggestion, how would this State ticket go?

For Governor, W. C. Coker of Darlington;

For Lieutenant-Governor, W. L. Mauldin, of Greenville;

For Attorney General, Jos. H. Earle, of Sumter;

For Secretary of State, W. Z. Lottner, of Kershaw;

For Comptroller General, W. E. Stoney, of Richland;

For Treasurer, Jno. Peter Richardson, of Clarendon;

For Superintendent of Public Schools, Chas. Petty, of Spartanburg;

For Adjutant General, anybody who wants the office with the chance of its early abolition.

What is the matter with that ticket? Who has anything to say against it?—Greenville News.

[We would suggest the following changes: For Governor, Gen. John Bratton, of Fairfield.

Lieutenant-Governor, W. C. Coker, of Darlington.

For Superintendent of Education, President G. W. Holland, of Newberry College.]

## Good Signs.

A pretty good sign of increasing prosperity of a country is the erection of new and better dwellings and larger business houses, and this is very generally noticeable in the South. What a change for the better would the man who had not seen the South for ten or fifteen years find as he traveled over it! The South is not to be judged in comparison with the North or West, for there the desolating effect of a disastrous war was not felt as in the South. The South of to-day must be judged by the South of twenty or even ten years ago. It is then that we get a good idea of what has been accomplished in the redemption of a country from what looked like hopeless ruin.—Manufacturers' Record.

## RICHLAND'S PROSPERITY.

A Candidate for Lieutenant Governor—Hot Race in the Third District.

COLUMBIA, S. C., June 29.—Six months or more ago your correspondent predicted that Hon. John C. Sheppard, of Edgefield, would be Governor of South Carolina during the year 1886. Some knowing people ridiculed the idea, but from several little intimations thrown out lately it is gradually dawning upon the minds of the people that the prediction was not made solely for my "amusement," and it appears now that the prophecy will be fulfilled. Col. Sheppard is in the city to-day. He will make a most excellent Chief Magistrate, and although he may possibly occupy the position but a short while, he will discharge the duties with dignity and to the perfect satisfaction of the entire people.

Hon. W. L. Mauldin, of Greenville, will be a candidate for Lieutenant-Governor. He is the present Senator from this county. A prominent up country editor and politician informs me that "things will be lively" in the next Democratic Convention. The upper counties have not had the representation in these conventions to which they believed themselves entitled by reason of their Democratic vote, and they intend to introduce and advocate resolutions looking to a correction of what they regard as an injustice.

The Congressional contest in the Third District gets warmer and more interesting daily. Abbeville and Newberry both have two candidates in the field, and Anderson one, leaving Oconee and Pickens for the chief battle ground. Each of the five active candidates is endeavoring to secure his own delegation and is putting in his surplus time in the two counties named.

Court opened here yesterday, Judge Aldrich presiding. The Judge delivered a very instructive charge to the grand jury on their general and special duties, and an interesting lecture in the causes producing the present depressed condition of the farmers of the State, holding that it is due chiefly to the large production of cotton to the exclusion of food crops, and the credit system prevailing, and not to bad legislation or the administration of the laws. He paid a glowing tribute to the splendid services the lawyers have rendered the State and discountenanced all efforts to array one class of our citizens against another. It was altogether one of the most remarkable charges ever delivered to a grand jury in this State. Judge Aldrich has lost none of the fire and eloquence that so distinguished him in early manhood, and he speaks out his opinions as boldly as when his court was invaded by the armed enemies of his county he commanded the Sheriff of Barnwell County to adjourn the court "while the voice of justice is stifled."

Mr. A. B. Williams, the editor of the Greenville News, is in the city for the first time in two years. He should come oftener and get acquainted with the people of this part of the State, especially the public officers.

Mayor Courtenay's little "boomlet" for the Governorship seems to have died out simultaneously with his departure to Europe. It lasted until he reached New York. Generous Bob Hemphill has published a letter from the Mayor lately, written just before he left Charleston, but this was doubtless done to let the "boom" down easily and prevent an explosion.

Colonel John Peter Richardson, Gen. John Bratton, Colonel W. C. Coker, Colonel R. W. Edwards, Colonel C. S. McCall, Colonel A. C. Haskell and several others are now mentioned as possible nominees for the Governorship. Either of these gentlemen would give the State a wise, conservative and progressive administration.

Gov. Thompson's appointment to the Assistant Secretaryship of the Treasury is the topic of discussion in the hotels and on the streets to-night. The opinion is universal that no better selection could have been made by the President, and South Carolina appreciates the honor conferred upon her so distinguished and popular son.

It is fortunate for the State that Gov. Thompson will be succeeded in the executive chair by one so thoroughly equipped for the exacting duties of the high position. Mr. Sheppard is a splendid representative of Carolina's young Democracy, and he will give the State a wise and just administration.

In the general rejoicing, Richland modestly congratulates himself on the fulfillment of a political prophecy made so long ago that it was regarded then as a mild guess at a future result.—Richland in Augusta Chronicle, June 30th.

## TEACHERS' DEPARTMENT.

ARTHUR KIHLE, EDITOR.

We quote a part of an essay, on teaching Elementary Mathematics, by David C. Barrow. "Save a good student for the last and go over the whole lesson with him, after you have presented each portion carefully with other members of the class. This I think most important. In one class was a cool, clear headed boy who never got excited when I questioned him, who always knew his lesson, and who, as well as any boy I ever taught, could be used to wind up the recitation successfully. I told his father once how I used his son, adding, he was the best scholar in the class. 'Well, now, that accounts for it,' said the father, 'he has complained to me of that very treatment,' and my reply was, Mr. Barrow has nothing against you, I am sure.' I begged him to tell the boy that it was only my way of showing how much I thought of him. When you cannot get a member of your class who cannot be thus used, go over yourself in a general review, and present the lesson as a whole.

2. There are some subjects so difficult, that it seems well impossible for the average mind to grasp them at once. For this reason I sometimes leave a subject, after having tried my best to make it clear, and failed, until progress throws fresh light upon it. This I know is opposed to all rules for teaching mathematics. Never go on until each step is understood is the rule that was given to me. I soon found that I reached the end if I adhered to that. I know, too, that the work in my own mind, when studying a new subject, followed no such law as that. I learn clearly at intervals along, and by and by the intervening difficulties are removed. I understand that this is the great difference between private study and teaching, viz., that the teacher is to remove these onerous difficulties; but I understand as well, that I must be guided in my efforts to illumine the minds of those whom I teach, by the process which now my mind undergoes. Blackstone advises his young students of the law against discouragement, adding, peradventure at some other time, in some other place, it will become clear.

3. I have found that it frequently assists the understanding of a difficult demonstration to put it in the form of questions and answers. I know you may consider this childish, but if it will help the understanding, why reject it? The explanation of rule for extracting cube root I sometimes give in this way, and agree with the class to ask certain questions, in written work, as suggestions. 1. Why arrange as for division? 2. Why take root of first term, for first term of root, &c.

4. Allow the use of memory as a means, not as an end. I know it rank heresy to say memory to some teachers of mathematics, if not to all—still I say it. I have so often had boys say, 'I can't learn this unless I memorize it.' Now they think that this is a good reason for not studying. I tell them, well, you memorize it and I will make you understand it. I violate immemorial usage then, as before, because I have noticed how my own mind works."

Rates of Travel for Teachers Attending State Normal Institute.

Reduced rates of travel have been offered by the railroads in the State on the following terms: South Carolina Railway, Charleston & Savannah Railway, Atlantic Coast Line (from Charleston only), Charlotte, Columbia & Augusta Railroad and branches, Columbia & Greenville Railroad and leased lines: Full first class fare going; return free on presenting to conductors certificates of attendance from this office.

Atlanta & Charlotte Air Line, Port Royal & Augusta Railway, Augusta & Knoxville Railroad, Greenwood, Laurens & Spartanburg Railroad, Atlantic Coast Line (except from Charleston): Regular fare going, return at rate of one cent per mile; certificates of attendance from this office to entitle teachers to purchase return tickets at rate named.

The roads composing the Atlantic Coast Line in South Carolina are the Wilmington, Columbia & Augusta, North-Eastern, Cheraw & Darlington, Cheraw & Salisbury, Central of S. C., Georgetown & Lanes.

## The Teachers' Association.

At the Female Academy on last Saturday was not so well attended as it might have or should have been. Enough, however, were present to make the meeting interesting. Miss Octavia Garlington read an essay on "geography," and Miss Cyrilla Rutherford read one on "the teacher at playtime." These subjects being very interesting it was thought best to wait until the meeting for a full discussion of them.

The association decided to hold a meeting of three days, commencing 2nd of September, when we expect all teachers to attend. Come to the meetings of the association, teacher. Don't let trifling difficulties keep you away. It is your duty to come. Remember also that there is a column in the HERALD and NEWS which you seem to have forgotten.

## The Political Problem.

"It makes us tired" to hear men forever pretending that farmers are imposed upon in the administration of laws. We hear men continually talking about those who are "opposed" to farmers. We do not believe that there is an intelligent man in Laurens County who really would, if he had the power, do ought to injure this class of citizens. Who can be benefited by poor crops? Is it the lawyer, doctor, merchant, teacher, carpenter, blacksmith? Who is it?

No; you may look in vain for those who seek to injure farmers. Men differ as to what political measures are for the good of the country, but the real question after all is to place men in office who have the good sense and sound judgment to decide these questions intelligently. We are opposed to any class of citizens making political nominations. The Democratic party has adopted the primary election system of making these nominations, and any convention "suggested" in the field will necessarily defeat the spirit of the primary. The Democratic party as an organization, allows farmers and every other class a voice, and we believe this organization is amply sufficient to meet the demands of the times. This being the case, we do most heartily oppose any political organization that seeks to supplant democracy, whether it be farmers or republicans. If the Democratic party has failed to redeem pledges; if it cannot make nominations by the mode adopted, then we might join some other political organization. When farmers' clubs assemble they should discuss agriculture, and when they discuss politics, it should be done in Democratic club. Farmers can discuss politics, and should do so; not as farmers, but as citizens—as Democrats.—Laurens Advertiser.

Do Our Judges Wink at the Crime of Murder.

We see it stated in the newspapers that there is still no trouble for murderers to get easy bail. Whether the fact that bail is now furnished to nearly all murderers who apply, has anything to do with the great number of murders that occur in the State, we are not prepared to say with certainty, but we do say that we believe that the Judges are indirectly responsible for the failure of our juries to punish men who commit murder. The fact that a Judge will grant bail in any amount has a tendency to defeat the ends of justice, but when a Judge will grant bail to a red handed murderer who ought to be hanged, that officer commits an offence against the public peace and dignity of the Commonwealth, and we think he lends himself and his official influence against law and order, and for the protection of the murderous element.

Our Judges never fail to lend their official influence toward meeting out punishment for the theft of a cow or a hog, but when a murder has been committed our Judges seem exceedingly kind to the criminal. They unlock our jail doors for them, and by their official act, create a sentiment in favor of the man who has committed the highest offence known to the human or the divine law—that of murder.

It is useless to expect juries, even if they are properly selected, to do their duty, as long as the Judges do whatever lies in their power to excuse the murderous criminal. The example of our Judges, and the act of our juries, has taught us that it is less dangerous to kill a pig, than it is to kill our neighbors.

Unless our Judges cease to lend their influence in behalf of murderers, we need not expect to see the law enforced.—Abbeville Press and Banner, June 30.

## VAUGHNSVILLE.

Miss Fannie Wells, daughter of Mr. George Wells, was married to Mr. Lafayette Adams on the night of the 25th. Mr. Wells and wife knew nothing of the marriage until the next morning. Miss Fannie made her escape through a window is the report. Elopement seems to be coming in fashion.

Mr. J. Y. Matthews spent a few days at his father's in Williamston last week. His father has been sick, but we are glad to state that he is well again.

We learn that Mr. Fed. Dominick has built a temporary bridge at the Workman bridge on Little River.

Mrs. Gussie Keizler is quite sick with bilious fever.

The report of the death of Mr. D. C. Crow is not true. It was his brother, Mr. James Crow.

Wife (Sunday night)—Where have you been, John?

Husband—Been t' sacred concert listening to (hic) sacred music.

Wife (sarcastically)—Yes, and drinking sacred beer and whiskey, and smoking sacred cigars. If there are saints on this earth, John Smith, you are one of them.

The following communications were intended for last week's issue, but were crowded out:

## PROSPERITY.

Crops are beginning to look better after a few days sunshine. I hear several say they are not in as bad a fix as they thought. It is a little amusing to hear farmers coming from below here, about eight or ten miles, saying they thought they were in a bad fix until they came up here, and seeing our crops they consider their crops good, but they must consider they have red lands while we have sandy land.

Mr. John A. Enlow brought a very fine cotton plant to town Saturday 26th, it was above knee high, having a great many shapes and blossoms; he says he has an acre of just such cotton. Mr. Jacob Bedenbaugh brought a cotton blossom to town Monday 28th; he says he has the best crop in the county.

In the absence of Rev. C. A. Marks, his pulpit was very ably and acceptably filled by Professor Voigt, of Newberry College, showing very conclusively that godliness is gain, and his earnest appeal to young men to enter the ministry, I hope may be the means of directing some young men in that course.

We also had the pleasure of hearing addresses delivered to the Y. M. C. A., Sunday night, by Rev. J. C. Boyd and Rev. Cowan, of Chicago. Rev. J. C. Boyd preached at Prosperity Church Sabbath morning, and Rev. Williams of the Baptist Church preached in the Methodist Church in the evening.

One of the saddest burials I think I ever attended was that of our young friend Eugene Hunter. He was just entering the bloom of youth and very promising, being cut off in life so suddenly apparently doing well, besides, eating supper, and died before midnight. He was a scholar of the Prosperity high school. When the grave was filled, each class-mate came forward and placed upon his grave wreaths, crosses and bunches of flowers, showing in what high esteem they held him in his life. The family has the sympathy of the entire community.

We were glad to see Prof. C. W. Welch in our midst Sunday, also glad to see his lady who came down Saturday, visiting her brother Mr. J. H. Hunter. She returned to Newberry Monday. Mrs. Robertson came down on a visit to her brother on Monday.

It also gave us pleasure to see Mrs. Geo. H. Waddell on a visit to her mother, Mrs. J. R. Boulware.

Miss Wells is visiting Mrs. W. A. Mosely.

Mr. H. E. Bouknight was the happy man last week. It is a girl.

Another rain Monday night.

B. J. W.

## MT. TABOR.

Mr. Monroe J. Epting, of the Theological Seminary at Newberry, delivered his first sermon at Mt. Tabor on Sunday. It was well prepared and universally praised by all who heard it.

Politics in this section is quiet. Very few candidates are known, and there is very little expression given to those that are expected to be in the field outside of the Congressional race. Capt. J. N. Lipscomb has a host of strong friends and admirers, and is decidedly the strong man in this section. Those who know him best are loudest in proclaiming his fitness and merit to represent the whole people of the Third District in Congress.

In the death of Mr. W. Franklin Housen this community has sustained the loss of one of its best and most useful members. His was indeed a brilliant mind. Without any educational advantages he, by dint of hard study, arose above his average fellow citizens in intellect. We understand that at the time of his death he was engaged writing a series of articles to appear in the Newberry Observer, entitled "The Annals of the Dutch Fork," and we are confident if he had lived to complete them they would have been highly interesting. He was in his sixty-sixth year, and leaves many relatives and friends to mourn their loss.

Hon. J. A. Sligh was taken quite sick on Sunday.

A little child of Mr. John A. Sheely's, Jr., has malignant dysentery in a severe form.

Crops are growing nicely now, and farmers are beginning to be masters of the situation.

A farmers' club is to be organized in this section in the near future.

"Where are you going, papa?" asked one of our young ladies at dinner Saturday. "To the club meeting," was the reply of the fond parent. "O, I'm so glad we are going to have beef."

The fruit crop is large but seems to have a tendency to rot when it begins to ripen.

L. C. B.